

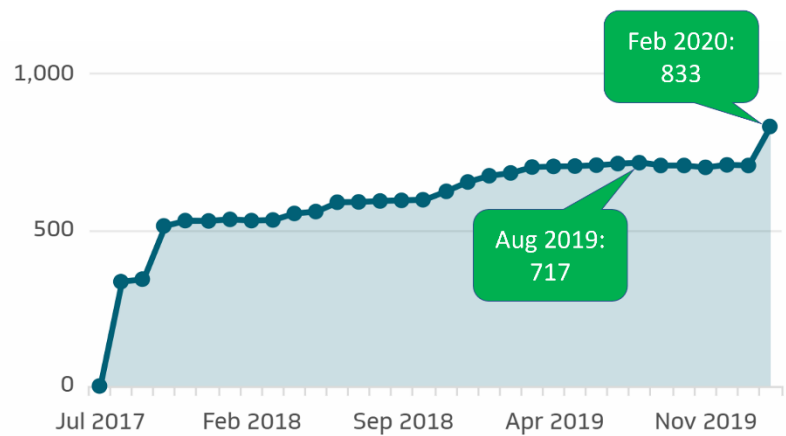
UPDATES FOR BROOKLINE'S CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

Company
March 27, 2020

I'm starting this update with good news. Good Energy, the town's aggregation program consultant late this week received updated numbers reflecting the first full month of aggregation customers rolling over to our new energy supplier. Between Jan. and Feb. 2020, we saw 125 new residential accounts and 2 small commercial accounts that opted up to the 100% product.

Active Enrollments: Brookline All Green product (100%), all customer segments, all customer types, from July 2017 through February 2020.

Data Source: Good Energy



Following the letter announcing the new phase of Brookline's Community Aggregation program, there was a 20% increase in opt-up participation (from January to February 2020, including the 65% and 100% product offerings).

Including all account types, we currently have 833 accounts that have opted up to 100%; the previous high during the entire history of the program was 717. Additionally, 26 residential accounts and 1 small commercial account opted up to the new 65% product.

On Tuesday March 24th, the Brookline Green Electricity (BGE) Working Group met virtually with Good Energy. Patrick Roche has joined the Good Energy team; many of you may know him already as he used to handle the aggregation program for our regional planning agency, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council. Patrick heard the efforts that community volunteers have made to date with the Opt-Up campaign. We also learned that Good Energy did not do any opt-

BROOKLINE GREEN ELECTRICITY

Working Team Update

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out letter "sweeps" since July 2019, noting their concern that the comparable Eversource rates in the third quarter of last year could have resulted in many new customers to opt-out. Once a customer opts out, we are not able to directly market the program to them again. We are scheduling a meeting for mid-May so that this decision in the future is made with a recommendation of the BGE Working Group.

Good Energy is also in the works of changing the opt-up process so that it is simpler (not requiring customers to call, one button link to a web-based form, and immediate email receipt).

Regarding third-party suppliers, National Grid (the electricity delivery utility in other areas of the state) has provided Good Energy with customer names and addresses that have switched to third-party suppliers, although they have not released which third-party supplier the customer has switched to.

Good Energy is researching and clarifying with the state the legal parameters of being able to use this data, as well as communicating with Eversource, our area's electricity delivery utility, to see whether they can similarly release this data to Good Energy for Brookline customers.

The BGE Working Team agreed with Good Energy, that if possible, we would like to have a letter from the Town mailed out to everyone that is on a third party supplier that may be as simple as notifying residents that they are receiving the letter because they are utilizing a third party energy supplier. Many customers don't realize they have signed up for a third-party energy supplier that is not part of the Town's aggregation program.

Other next steps identified:

1) Good Energy (GE) will print and mail updated opt-up cards to Rep. Vitolo's office for his welcome packets to new residents, as well as to an appropriate Town volunteer coordinator (likely Nancy Heller's porch – as that is one of the few certainties in these "uncertain times."

- 2) GE will review a brief byline about opting up that volunteers can use in their email signature.
- 3) Diane Sokol will email GE the specific information of residents that had issues enrolling and opting up with the previous supplier last year so that GE can ensure that these issues have now fully been resolved with the current energy supplier.
- 4) Now that the switch to the new supplier is complete, along with new customer data, GE and Town staff will jointly begin a demographic data analysis to better focus opt-up initiatives in the future.
- 5) The BGE working team will review Good Energy's newly revised opt-out letter (for the next "sweep", which will be this summer.
- 6) Good Energy (GE) is still trouble-shooting some utility data received for large commercial accounts, and once that is resolved, Town staff will be able to start posting updated aggregation program data on the Town's website.
- 7) The next BGE working team will be scheduled for the second half of April.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Working Team Update

The Renewable Energy Working team last met on January 7th, 2020. Members gave staff additional language and comments related to the draft Power Purchase Agreement between the Town of Brookline and Solect Energy.

These comments included the desire for the Town to have live access to solar generation data, as well as adjusting several terms so that any future change in technology or energy markets are as favorable to the Town as possible. Finally, the group proposed language that clarifies that both the Town and Solect would be willing to work cooperatively to prototype new efficient technologies, if both parties benefitted.

Town Counsel, Purchasing, and Planning Departments have a follow up call with Solect to review these and other internal staff-generated revisions.

Once we have a “final draft” of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), Kara will forward the language to the working team and Climate Action Committee at the same time as the agreement is forwarded to the Select

Board for their consideration and approval.

We will also need to coordinate any necessary approvals with the School Committee; it is highly unlikely this will be done as a joint meeting as previously planned.

Additionally, both Boards are obviously prioritizing other items related to COVID-19 at this time.

Once scheduled, Town staff will also figure out how to broadly advertise a virtual public hearing so that the community has a chance to review the visual impacts and the general contract language before the PPA is signed.

Wait? Could this still be installed while the stay-at-home advisory is in effect? As of today, Governor Baker has stated that construction is allowed to continue during this emergency order, and the Town itself continues with school construction projects – modifying practices and staging of construction as needed to conform to safe practices.

A future Renewable Energy working team will likely be scheduled following the Town getting this Power Purchase Agreement in place.



Photo courtesy of Solect; Solect's Solar Array Installation as part of the Power Purchase Agreement with Roxbury Latin School, West Roxbury, MA

Proposed PPA Roof Locations – First Priority:

Coolidge Corner School
(292 DC kW)

Runkle School (174 DC kW)

High School (146 DC kW)

Kirrane Pool & Gym
(263 DC kW)

Other PPA Roof Locations that need to be coordinated with other planned building work:

Heath School (217 DC kW)

Municipal Service Center
(292 DC kW)

TRANSPORTATION

Working Team Update

The previously scheduled April 2nd Transportation working team meeting may still happen virtually – as of today, that is unclear, but if that does happen, John Harris will notify everyone on the working team and Kara Brewton will post the participation information on the working team page.

The working team has been discussing ideas regarding Electric Vehicle (EV) demonstration projects, creating a "How-to" booklet for EV charging on private property, identifying incentives/regulations for EV infrastructure on public and private property, and discussing potential street design pilots with Todd Kirrane, Brookline's Transportation Administrator.

Thanks to John Harris (citizenjohn02446@yahoo.com) for the following information:

I plan on giving an update on late-breaking developments re state-level E-Scooter legislation. Looking forward to hearing from you. We'd love to hear what you've been working on!

Other Working Teams that did not have a current update for this round of communication include the Public Buildings, Non-Public Buildings, and Green Space Working Teams. We hope to also in future updates information from Climate Action Brookline and our School community.

OTHER NEWS

& Updates from the Co-Chairs

SUSTAINABILITY POSITION: Nancy Heller continues to be in touch with the Town Administrator, Mel Kleckner, regarding the Collins Center's work on reviewing the Sustainability position and related recommendations for the Town of Brookline. The Collins Center is actively working on this project - even this week - talking to other communities for comparison purposes. Interviews with staff and community members are being planned but have not yet begun. Nancy will update you more in coming weeks.

POTENTIAL FUTURE VIRTUAL CLIMATE ACTION

COMMITTEE BROOKLINE MEETING: If you've been watching any of the virtual Town meetings, you'll understand that as of today, Town staff are continuing to triage virtual public meetings for those agenda items that are truly the most urgent items for the Town.

You can help! The Town of Brookline is only supporting WebEx as our online meeting platform. Therefore, please pick a Town meeting on the calendar with a WebEx link and attend/ participate/ practice using this platform. You will also begin to learn some conventions that are being used during this transition to virtual communication. If we do hold an official Climate Action Committee meeting virtually, it will be extremely helpful if you as committee members have already practiced with this platform.

All public meeting notices will also include a call-in option, and we will audibly be repeating any information that occurs in the Chat/texting functions. As always, send Werner Lohe (werner.lohe@gmail.com) and Nancy Heller (nheller@brooklinema.gov) any proposed agenda items.